

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the following claims which are pending in the present application:

1. (Currently Amended) In a [[A]] consignment inventory management and reconciliation system, a method for consignment inventory management,
comprising wherein there is tracking and reconciliation of:
 - a. tracking and reconciliation of first items shipped to a buyer from a seller and that are located at the buyer's consignment inventory location;
 - b. tracking and reconciliation of second items shipped to the buyer by the ~~seller~~ seller, that have not been billed by the seller and are not located ~~cannot be found~~ at the buyer's consignment inventory location; and
 - c. tracking and reconciliation of third items ~~not~~ shipped to the buyer by a third party parties other than the seller, wherein the third items are located ~~can be found~~ at the buyer's consignment inventory location ~~location~~, and are of the same identity as items provided on consignment by the seller to the buyer.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of A system as claimed in claim 1,
including aging wherein the system also ages the first items, the second items

~~items,~~ and the third items, thereby tracking the amounts of the first items, the second items and the third items over time.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~there is tracking~~ the first items, the second items and the third items includes tracking at least one of an ~~of one or more selected from the groups~~ consisting of: item number, an item lot number, and an item expiry date of the first items, the second items and the third items.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of A system as claimed in claim 3, wherein tracking the first items, the second items and the third items takes place whenever a transaction for any of the first items, the second items and the third items is processed by the system.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of A system as claimed in claim 43, including representing ~~wherein the transaction is represented by a transaction~~ description and a transaction amount.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of A system as claimed in claim 5,
wherein the transaction amount is ~~can be one:~~ zero, a positive number, ~~or and~~ a
negative number, ~~with a number of decimal places.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The method of A system as claimed in claim 4,
including identifying wherein the transaction as at least one of is one or more
~~selected from the group consisting of:~~ bill, use, dispose, return, transfer-out,
receive, transfer-in, order, set, and countercurrent.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of A system as claimed in claim 7,
including identifying the transaction as wherein bill is used when the item is no
longer at the buyer's consignment inventory location and ~~[[but]]~~ ownership has
not been transferred from the seller to the buyer.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of A system as claimed in claim 7,
including identifying the transaction as wherein use is used when the buyer has
used the item and ~~the process of~~ transferring ownership from the seller to the
buyer should be initiated or has been completed.

10. (Currently amended) The method of A system as claimed in claim 7,
including identifying the transaction as wherein dispose is used when the item is
no longer at the buyer's consignment inventory location and the seller is writing
off the item and item; ownership is ~~[[will]]~~ not ~~[[be]]~~ transferred from the seller
to the buyer.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of A system as claimed in claim 7,
including identifying the transaction as wherein receive is used when the item is
physically ~~being~~ moved from the seller to the buyer's consignment inventory
location and location; ownership is ~~[[will]]~~ not ~~[[be]]~~ transferred from the seller to
the buyer.

12. (Currently amended) The method of A system as claimed in claim 7,
including identifying the transaction as wherein transfer-in is used when the
item is physically ~~being~~ moved to the buyer's consignment inventory location
from a third party location and location; ownership is ~~[[will]]~~ not ~~[[be]]~~
transferred from the seller to the buyer.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of A system as claimed in claim 7,
including identifying the transaction as wherein return-in is used when the item

is physically ~~being~~ moved from the buyer's consignment inventory location back to the seller and seller; ownership is is ~~[[will]]~~ not ~~[[be]]~~ transferred from the seller to the buyer.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of A system as claimed in claim 7,
including identifying the transaction as wherein transfer-out is used when the item is physically ~~being~~ moved from the buyer's consignment inventory location to a third party location and location; ownership is is ~~[[will]]~~ not ~~[[be]]~~ transferred from the seller to the buyer.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of A system as claimed in claim 7,
including identifying the transaction as wherein order is used when an increase
is a result has been made to increase the buyer's consignment item item(s)
quantity.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of A system as claimed in claim 7,
including identifying the transaction as wherein set is used when a the quantity of items that the seller and the buyer agree is at the buyer's consignment inventory location and is used as a starting point for a consignment inventory on-hand ~~On-hand~~ quantity.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of A system as claimed in claim 7,
including identifying the transaction as wherein count is used when a the
quantity of items is can be physically found and verified by the seller and the
buyer at the buyer's consignment inventory location at a time.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of A system as claimed in claim 1,
including:

providing a stock count of the first items, the second items and the third
items; and then

providing the wherein reconciliation of the first items, the second items and
the third items takes place after a stock count process.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of A system as claimed in claim 18,
wherein the reconciliation of the second items identifies notes the second items
as unbilled Unbilled and the reconciliation of the third items identifies the third
items as excess, thereby enabling Excess to enable the seller to track quantities of
the second items and the third items over time to provide a more accurate history
of the consignment inventory.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of A system as claimed in claim 3,
including wherein the seller uses the tracking of the item lot number and the
item expiry date of the first items and the second items to determine which of the
first and second items are approaching an expiry date ~~and thus need to be~~
adjusted.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of A system as claimed in claim 1,
including grouping wherein the first items are grouped together in a plurality of
categories.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of A system as claimed in claim 1,
including grouping wherein the second items are grouped together in a plurality
of categories.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of A system as claimed in claim 1,
including grouping wherein the third items are grouped together in a plurality of
categories.

24. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of A system as claimed in claim 21,~~
~~including adjusting the first items wherein adjustment is according to one or~~
more of the ~~plurality of categories.~~

25. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of A system as claimed in claim 1,~~
~~including determining wherein an inventory total as a is the sum of the first~~
items and the second ~~items items,~~ less the third items.

26. (Currently Amended) ~~In a [[A]] consignment inventory management and~~
~~reconciliation system, a method for consignment inventory management,~~
~~comprising wherein there is tracking and reconciliation of:~~

(a) ~~tracking and reconciliation of first items shipped to a buyer from a~~
seller and that are located at the buyer's consignment inventory location; ~~and~~

(b) ~~tracking and reconciliation of second items shipped to the buyer by the~~
seller that have not been billed by the seller and ~~are not located cannot be found~~
at the buyer's consignment inventory location; ~~and~~

~~tracking and reconciliation of third items located at the buyer's consignment~~
~~inventory location.~~

27. (Currently Amended) The method of A system as claimed in claim 26,
including:

aging the first items, the second items and the third items, thereby tracking
the amounts of the first items, the second items and the third items over time;
and

determining an inventory total as a sum of the first items and the second
items less the third items~~wherein there is also tracking and reconciliation of third~~
~~items not shipped to the buyer by the seller, that can be found at the buyer's~~
~~consignment inventory location, and are of the same identity as items provided~~
~~on consignment by the seller to the buyer.~~

28. (Currently amended) In a [[A]] consignment inventory management and
reconciliation system, a method for consignment inventory management,
comprising~~wherein there is tracking and reconciliation of:~~

(a) tracking and reconciliation of first items shipped to a buyer from a
seller and that are located at the buyer's consignment inventory location;

tracking and reconciliation of second items located at the buyer's
consignment inventory location; and

(b) tracking and reconciliation of third items~~not shipped to the buyer by a~~
~~party parties~~ other than the seller, wherein the third items are located~~can be~~

~~found at the buyer's consignment inventory location~~ location, and are of the same identity as items provided on consignment by the seller to the buyer, ~~wherein second items can also be found at the buyer's consignment inventory location.~~

29. (Currently Amended) The method of A system as claimed in claim 28, including:

aging the first items, the second items and the third items, thereby tracking the amounts of the first items, the second items and the third items over time; and

determining an inventory total as a sum of the first items and the second items less the third items ~~wherein there is also tracking and reconciliation of second items shipped to the buyer by the seller, that have not been billed by the seller and cannot be found at the buyer's consignment inventory location.~~

30. (Currently amended) In a [[A]] consignment inventory management and reconciliation system, a method for consignment inventory management, comprising ~~wherein there is tracking and reconciliation of:~~

tracking and reconciliation of first items located at the buyer's consignment inventory location;

(a)—tracking and reconciliation of second items shipped to the buyer by the seller, that have not been billed by the seller and are not located ~~cannot be found~~ at the buyer's consignment inventory location; and

(b)—tracking and reconciliation of third items shipped to the buyer by a third party ~~parties~~ other than the seller, wherein the third items are located ~~can be found~~ at the buyer's consignment inventory location ~~location~~, and are of the same identity as items provided on consignment by the seller to the buyer, — ~~wherein first items can also be found at the buyer's consignment inventory location.~~

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30, including:

aging the first items, the second items and the third items, thereby tracking the amounts of the first items, the second items and the third items over time;
and

determining an inventory total as a sum of the first items and the second items less the third items~~A computer useable medium having a computer program code that is configured to cause a processor to execute one or more functions to perform the process steps as defined in claim 1.~~